

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1904, Bishop O'Gorman organized the new parish of St. Thomas More located in the city of Brookings; and,

Whereas, The new parish served 7 Catholic families, the State College where there were between 20 and 30 Catholic students enrolled, and several families in the country extending to Volga and beyond; and,

Whereas, The parish dedicated its first church structure in 1906, a newer structure in 1952, and a new church and education center in 1999; and,

Whereas, The parish served the growing college, now South Dakota State University, and the Catholic population until 1961 when the Newman Center was dedicated; and,

Whereas, God has blessed the membership of St. Thomas More Parish with 900 families, or 2,500 members; and,

Whereas, The St. Thomas More Parish has had a presence in the Brookings community for 100 years, and special recognition will be given to the past and present members of this congregation who have faithfully conducted and carried out the wishes of the original founders of the church; and,

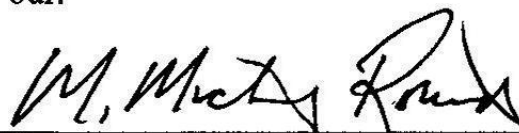
Whereas, A 100th Anniversary celebration of St. Thomas More Parish will take place on Sunday, August 29, 2004, with a special mass, carnival, and the presentation of a 100 year history of the parish book with Bishop Carlson and former parish priests present:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 29, 2004, as

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.



M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:



Chris Nelson, Secretary of State

